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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/737,327	12/15/2000	James M. Mundt	20589Y	9517

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MERCK AND CO INC
P O BOX 2000
RAHWAY, NJ 070650907

EXAMINER

GEHMAN, BRYON P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3728

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/737,327

Applicant(s)

MUNDT, JAMES M.

Examiner

Bryon P. Gehman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on or as of 20 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2-5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Priority

Applicant has not complied with one or more conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) as follows:

An application in which the benefits of an earlier application are desired must contain a proper reference to the prior application(s) in the first sentence of the specification or in an application data sheet (37 CFR 1.78(a)(2) and (a)(5)). The "incorporation by reference..." recitation is improper. See MPEP 201.11.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Throughout the claims are extraneous, improper commas that interrupt, not separate thoughts. Examples may be found in claim 1, line 4, "dimension, first and second sides", line 5, "comprising, interior and..." and line 30, "the first, perforation lines". See also claim 1, lines 33 (twice), 36, 37 and 43, claim 8, line 2, claim 12, lines 3 (twice), 19, 24 (twice) and 37, and claim 19, line 2.

In claim 1, line 4, "proportionally dimension" is ungrammatical, and should be --proportionally dimensioned--. See also claim 10, claim 12, line 3, and claim 21.

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In claim 1, line 4 and claim 12, line 4, "hinge means" is indefinite, as "hinge" is not a function as required. See also wherever the phrase is employed.

In claim 1, lines 9-10, "the blister cavities extend beyond the surface of the blister layer" is indefinite, as the blister cavities are part of the blister layer and thereby can't extend beyond the layer. In lines 11 and 12, there is no antecedent basis for a single "blister cavity". In line 13, abutting is misspelled. In line 18, "hinge means" is apparently a double recitation. In lines 29-30, "a portion said barrier strip" is ungrammatical. In line 31, "a notch cavity" is indefinite as to its relationship to other previously defined notch cavities. In line 33, "portion...are" is ungrammatical. In line 36, "most opposite the hinge means" is indefinite as to the meaning. In line 40, "blister and notch cavities, first and second perforated line" does not make sense or ends in mid thought.

In claim 12, line 14, peelable is misspelled. In line 39, "blister and notch cavities, first and second perforated line" does not make sense or ends in mid thought. In line 42, peeling is misspelled.

In claim 13, as written such does not make sense.

In claim 22, lines 2 and 3, "the blister" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 24, line 2, "cavities...is" is ungrammatical.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-24 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

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Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Telephone inquiries regarding the status of applications or other general questions, by persons entitled to the information, should be directed to the group clerical personnel and not to the examiner. As the official records and applications are located in the clerical section of the examining Tech Center, the clerical personnel can readily provide status information without contacting the examiner. See MPEP 203.08. The Tech Center clerical receptionist number is (703) 308-1148.

In receiving an Office Action, it becomes apparent that certain documents are missing, e. g. copies of references, Forms PTO 1449, PTO-892, etc., requests for copies should be directed to Tech Center 3700 Customer Service at (703) 308-5648, or e-mail CustomerService3700@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry concerning the merits of the examination of the application should be directed to Bryon Gehman at telephone number (703) 308-3866. My work schedule is normally Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 am through 5 pm, with Friday being worked at an alternative site away from my office.

Should I be unavailable during my normal working hours, my supervisor Mickey Yu may be reached at (703) 308-2672. The FAX phone numbers for formal communications concerning this application are (703) 872-9302 and (703) 872-9303. Informal communications may be made, following a telephone call to the examiner, by an informal FAX number to be given.

Other possibly helpful telephone numbers are:

Allowed Files & Publication	(703) 305-8322
Assignment Branch	(703) 308-9287
Certificates of Correction	(703) 305-8309
Drawing Corrections/Draftsman	(703) 305-8404/ 8335
Fee Questions	(703) 305-5125
Intellectual Property Questions	(703) 305-8217
Petitions/Special Programs	(703) 305-9282
Terminal Disclaimers	(703) 305-8408
Information Help Line	1-800-786-9199

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 308-1148.

BPG
January 23, 2002

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan P. Gub". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.